

wished to foster the goals of the American Legion in their community. Harrison Post 282 received its permanent charter from the American Legion in 1941. In its 65 years, Harrison Post 282 has continuously upheld the goals of the American Legion, helping countless veterans and serving as a pillar of the Harrison community in a variety of activities.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 65th Anniversary of the Harrison Post 282 American Legion and in honoring its outstanding commitment to veterans and their community.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO EAST HOLBROOK, ROCKY FORD, AND EMANUEL MENNONITE CHURCHES**

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to three Mennonite churches that have enriched the Southeastern Colorado community for 100 years. The East Holbrook, Rocky Ford, and Emmanuel Mennonite churches in Colorado have been instrumental in educating citizens about religion and providing healthcare to the Pueblo community. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing these institutions tremendous service to their Colorado community.

In 1903, the Mennonites settled in East Holbrook and the Fairmount area in my state. Over the years, the group has established a school, a tuberculosis sanitarium, and a hospital. The Mennonites have been outstanding members of the community who have met the increasing needs of their community by adding a School of Nursing and a new congregation for Spanish-speaking residents in Cheraw and La Junta, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, East Holbrook, Rocky Ford, and Emmanuel Mennonite churches are composed of dedicated individuals who use their resources to improve the lives of many Pueblos. The Mennonites have demonstrated a love for humanity that resonates with their compassionate and selfless service to their town. The Mennonite enthusiasm and commitment certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress.

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK FEE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003**

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 3, 2004*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, the PTO is in the midst of a crisis. Funded by user fees instead of taxpayers, the PTO generates \$1 billion in revenues each year. This success has been an Achilles' heel—the Administration treats the PTO as a cash cow and diverts hundreds of millions of dollars every year for other programs. This is making it difficult for the PTO to hire or even retain qualified examiners to review patent applications. Our technological advancement and our economy can only suffer if Congress sits idly by while this happens.

This bill remedies this by ensuring the PTO can spend all of the fees it collects. I believe ending fee diversion is one of the most important signals we can send to spur innovation and encourage new technologies and new drugs.

The bill also incorporates a proposal of mine and Representative KAPTUR's to maintain a fee deduction for small businesses. Small businesses are important to this country's economy, and we should give them every incentive to innovate and seek protection for those innovations.

Having said that, I still have concerns about outsourcing. The bill would give the PTO the ability to hire private contractors to do patent searches. This is problematic for a variety of reasons. First, searching old patents and journals is one of the core functions of the PTO, giving that job to private companies would be like shutting down the FBI and having someone else conduct criminal investigations for the Justice Department. Second, no one questions the accuracy and integrity of the work of PTO employees, so the need for contractors is questionable. Also, there could be conflicts of interest if the employee of a contractor doing searches has his or her own patent applications pending.

While the bill will be improved to prevent outsourcing to foreign companies and to limit conflicts of interest, some of my concerns remain.

**RECOGNIZING COLONEL H. WILLIAM CARD FOR HIS LEADERSHIP**

**HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2004*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join the Harlingen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in saluting the extraordinary life and service of Colonel William "Bill" Card. Colonel Card is a modern day "Renaissance man". He has been a citizen, soldier, educator, entrepreneur, community leader, and mayor, and is an example of what is best in America.

Bill Card was born into a military family where dedication to service and country were deeply ingrained. At the age of 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was sworn in by his father, Brigadier General Horace W. Card. While still in college, he was called to duty aboard the USS *Pennsylvania* berthed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. It was on Sunday, December 7, 1941 that Bill was first tested in battle as he manned the guns to defend his ship against enemy aircraft. In 1942, Bill was commissioned as a second lieutenant and by 1944 was a captain and took part in the campaign of Saipan Island.

After the war, Bill continued to serve in the Marines as an artillery instructor. When the Korean War broke out, Captain Card took part in the landing at Inchon and the liberation of Seoul. By 1954, Bill was a Lieutenant Colonel and served as Battalion Commander, Training and Test Regiment at Quantico, Virginia. In 1962, he was deployed to Cuba during the missile crisis and was subsequently promoted to full colonel.

In 1968, Colonel Card came to Harlingen, Texas as director of Development of the Marine Military Academy. As an instructor, he was always willing to share his knowledge and

the values of integrity, honor, courage, dedication and perseverance with the young cadets. Upon his retirement from the Marine Corps, he began a new career as a businessman and community leader in Harlingen.

Bill Card jumped right in to community affairs. He served as the Mayor of Harlingen from 1987 to 1998. He has served as the President of the Rio Grande Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Harlingen Rotary Club, the United Fund, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. He has been an officer in numerous organizations including the Easter Seal Chapter of Cameron County, the American Heart Association, the Lower Rio Grande Valley YWCA, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Marine Military Academy and the Harlingen Community Care Emergency Foundation. He currently serves on the Rio Grande Valley Health Services District Board, a new entity seeking to resolve the border region's indigent health care crisis. This list goes on and on.

He has deservedly received numerous awards including Citizen of the Year of the Rio Grande Council of the Boy Scouts, the 1973 "Boss of the Year" by the National Secretaries Association and the 1980 "Banker of the Year" for Small Business Administration Region VI. He even received the "Road Hand Award" from the Texas Department of Transportation for proving his ability and stamina in toiling long, strenuous hours for Texas roads. He has also never forgotten his first love, the Marines, and spearheaded the capital campaign that raised \$14 million for new barracks, classrooms, student services and athletic facilities for the Marine Military Academy.

Bill Card never does anything half-heartedly. The discipline and focus he learned in the Marines has been carried with him in civilian life. The people of Harlingen and the Rio Grande Valley are deeply indebted to him for his commitment to improving life for every resident. As a result of his leadership, Harlingen completed a new air terminal at Valley International Airport. The city has a new public library, a new public museum and an expanded municipal auditorium. His vision of thinking of the Rio Grande Valley as one economic entity has brought economic growth and increased cooperation to the whole region.

Despite accomplishing enough for two lifetimes, Bill and his wife Garrison have found the time to raise four beautiful children and are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren. I am very proud to call him my friend. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Colonel Card and expressing our gratitude for his distinguished service to South Texas and to this great Nation.

**D.C. CIRCUIT COURT RULING CONCERNING TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATIONS**

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2004*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, two days ago the D.C. Circuit Court ordered the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to design new